

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Deferiet Paper Mill RV2 - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region II

Subject: POLREP #6
Drum Overpacking and T&D Operations
Deferiet Paper Mill RV2
A26F
Deferiet, NY
Latitude: 44.0391100 Longitude: -75.6807500

To: Peter Lopez, US EPA
Walter Mugdan, US EPA
John Prince, US EPA
Angela Carpenter, US EPA
Joseph Rotola, US EPA
Margaret Gregor, US EPA
Mark Pane, US EPA
Dan Harkay, US EPA
Keith Glenn, US EPA
Tim Grier, US EPA
Michael Ryan, NYSDEC
Peter Taylor, NYSDEC
Larisa Romanowski, US DOI
Janet Zando, Village of Deferiet
Tim Irey, Village of Deferiet
Argie Cirillo, US EPA
Michael Basile, US EPA
Mary Gladowski, US EPA
George Zachos, US EPA
Kimberly Staiger, US EPA

From: Joel Petty, On-Scene Coordinator
Date: 11/22/2017
Reporting Period: 11/12/17 - 11/16/17

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	A26F	Contract Number:	EP-S2-15-01
D.O. Number:	TO39	Action Memo Date:	8/2/2017
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	7/13/2017	Start Date:	7/11/2017
Demob Date:	11/16/2017	Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:	NYD002229269	RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

An emergency Removal Action is warranted based on compromised containers, spilled material, unsecured access to the Site and analytical data indicating the presence of hazardous substances.

1.1.2 Site Description

The facility is located at 400 Anderson Avenue, Deferiet, New York and encompasses approximately 48 acres with a series of buildings that housed the former paper mill and a hydroelectric power-plant. The original mill manufactured paper of varying types, including newsprint and glossy magazine paper. The hydroelectric power-plant was built by the mill to generate steam which supplied electrical power for the machinery as well as the facilities. The paper mill has been abandoned since the mid-1980s, and with the exception of the power plant, is in a severe state of disrepair. In March 2016, EPA performed an emergency response at the site in order to stabilize asbestos-containing material (ACM) along an easement that is used by the employees at the power plant on the property. In June 2017, EPA conducted an assessment for additional ACM throughout the site buildings to determine eligibility for a removal action. During the assessment, abandoned drums and containers were discovered at two locations on the site.

1.1.2.1 Location

The Site is located at 400 Anderson Avenue in Deferiet Village, New York 13628. The coordinates for the Site are latitude 44.03918056, longitude -75.68388889. Residential properties border the Site to the north, northwest, west, and southwest. Over 200 people live in the neighborhood bordering the Site. The Site is an abandoned paper mill and the buildings are in various states of deterioration.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

More than 100 containers including two 4,500-gallon tanks, 60 55-gallon drums, 16 300-gallon totes, and numerous smaller containers were found abandoned on the property. It was observed that several of these containers had holes, were bulging and leaking contents onto the ground. EPA sampled a variety of the

containers located on-site and discovered that many contained hazardous substances. Hazard categorization indicated that incompatibles were collocated, which could mix if the contents leaked. The roof throughout the building is damaged leaving the containers exposed to the weather elements. The nearest residential properties are located directly across the street to the north and west. The facility is not secure. Fencing around the facility has been damaged in certain areas allowing trespassers access to the property. The buildings that the containers are in are not closed off and are easily accessed. Graffiti on the walls throughout the buildings indicate that trespassing has occurred.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

EPA was conducting an assessment on asbestos throughout the Site buildings in June 2017 and discovered containers of unknown origin and content. From June 19 through 21, 2017, EPA conducted an assessment of the abandoned drums, totes, tanks, and other containers that were abandoned on the property. Approximately two tanks, 16 totes, 58 drums, as well as various containers 5-gallons or less in size, were found in various states of deterioration. None of the containers were in shippable condition and some were dented and/or bulging. Some of the containers were devoid of tops or were missing bungs leaving them exposed to the elements. One of the totes was on its side and its contents were leaking out onto the floor. Hazard categorization indicated that incompatibles are collocated, which could mix if the contents leaked. The roof throughout the building is damaged leaving the containers exposed to the weather elements. The nearest residential properties are located directly across the street to the north and west. The facility is not secure. Fencing around the facility has been damaged in certain areas allowing trespassers access to the property. The buildings that the containers are in are not closed off and are easily accessed. Graffiti on the walls throughout the buildings indicate that trespassing has occurred. Hazard categorization of all accessible containers was conducted and select containers were sampled based upon the results of the hazard categorization. Analytical results of the samples indicated the drums and other containers contain CERCLA designated hazardous substances. Based on these results, the Site was determined to be eligible for an emergency Removal Action.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

On July 11, 2017, a request for approving the use of funds to commence mitigation activities was submitted. The Emergency and Remedial Response Division (ERRD) Acting Director verbally approved a \$282,000 ceiling, of which \$200,000 is for mitigation purposes. Following the monetary approval, an Emergency and Rapid Response Services (ERRS) contractor was selected and notified. The ERRS Response Manager (RM) contacted the OSC and discussed mobilization to the Site along with needed personnel and resources. ERRS began incurring costs on July 11, 2017, to perform the removal action. Assets were to be deployed the following day with arrival to the Site on July 13, 2017. The Action Memorandum was approved on August 2, 2017, as a ceiling increase. The total project ceiling authorized for the RV1 action was 150,000, all of which was for mitigation contracting. A project ceiling increase of \$282,000, of which \$200,000 was for mitigation contracting was authorized for the RV2 action. The total project ceiling authorized for the Site is now \$432,000, of which \$350,000 is for mitigation contracting.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

See previous PolReps for responses actions taken prior to November 12, 2017.

On November 12, 2017, ERRS completed tote cleaning and cutting operations. The following drums were generated during tote cleaning operations: 13 drums of solids and one drum of liquids in non-hazardous waste streams and one drum of solids in the corrosive acidic waste stream. Drums were overpacked in DOT-shippable containers and staged in the garage area. Containers for the first waste shipment were labelled and the hazardous waste manifest was prepared. Non-hazardous debris and PPE was loaded into the roll-off. Air monitoring for oxygen, LEL, VOCs, CO, and H2S, was performed with a multi-RAE during all tote operations.

On November 13, 2017, one truckload of waste was shipped off-site for disposal. This shipment included 90 containers and was detailed on Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifest Tracking Number 009801137 FLE. The shipment was received by Chemtron Corporation in Avon, OH, on November 14, 2017. Drums containing less than 20% liquids were targeted to be bulked to reduce drum disposal totals and ERRS bulked these containers. Drums were overpacked in DOT-shippable containers and staged in the garage area. Containers for the second waste shipment were labelled and the hazardous waste manifest was prepared.

On November 14, 2017, ERRS completed bulking operations. Eight additional containers were emptied in the bulking process. One cubic yard box was prepared. Drums were overpacked in DOT-shippable containers and staged in the garage area. Containers for the second waste shipment were labelled and the hazardous waste manifest was prepared. The two cut sections of the sodium hydroxide and sulfuric acid tanks were tack welded back on in order to prevent unauthorized access to the tanks. The steel generated from the cages of the totes was brought to Empire Recycling Corporation of Watertown, NY, for recycling. Non-hazardous debris and PPE was loaded into the roll-off. Final site cleanup was initiated.

On November 15, 2017, one truckload of waste was shipped off-site for disposal. This shipment included 63 containers and was detailed on Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifest Tracking Number 009801138 FLE. The shipment was received by Chemtron Corporation in Avon, OH, on November 16, 2017. Non-hazardous debris and PPE was loaded into the roll-off. Final site cleanup was completed. The EPA OSC met with the Deferiet Village Mayor to brief her on the completion of the Removal Action.

On November 16, 2017, one roll-off of non-hazardous debris and PPE was shipped off-site for disposal. This shipment was received by the Development Authority of the North Country Landfill in Rodman, NY, on the same day.

All field activities with regard to the cleanup of this site were complete on November 16, 2017, which included the demobilization of EPA and its contractors from the Site on this date. No removal action field costs will be incurred beyond this date and all actions specified in the action memorandum have been completed.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

EPA has identified Deferiet Development LLC as the owner of the facility. On January 10, 2017, the Preliminary PRP Search was completed. Contact with the owners occurred on January 27, 2017 and March

1, 2017. The two principals of Deferiet Development LLC claimed to no longer own the property, however a search of public records indicate they do. On May 11, 2017, Jefferson County received an Order granting an incident of temporary ownership for performance of an environmental restoration investigation. The County granted Site access to EPA on May 17, 2017.

EPA continued discussions with the two principals of the company. ORC began discussions with an attorney for Deferiet Development and the attorney provided an access agreement to one of the principals. On August 31, 2017, EPA received a signed access agreement from one principal of Deferiet Development, LLC. This allows for the removal of wastes from the Site that the court-ordered temporary ownership of the Site to Jefferson County did not allow for.

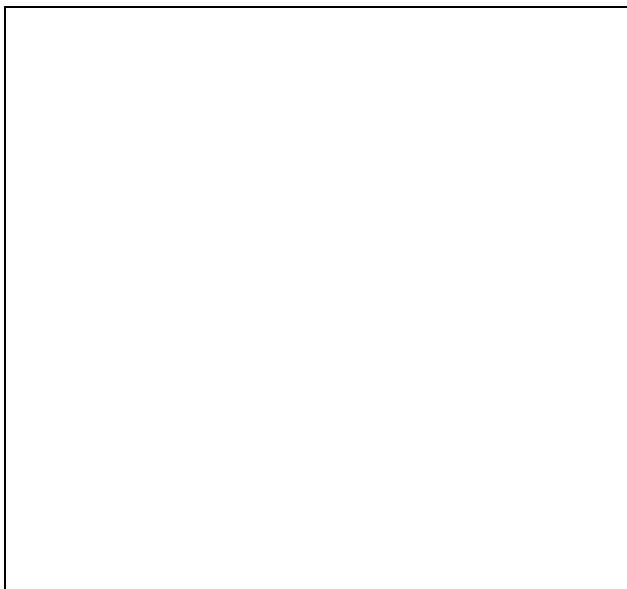
2.1.4 Progress Metrics

Additional information will become available after T&D is completed.

Waste Stream	Medium	Quantity	Manifest #	Treatment	Disposal
Non-hazardous, non-RCRA, non-DOT regulated material (waste stream #1)	Liquid	380 Gallons	009801138 FLE		
D001, D004, D010, UN1993, waste flammable liquids, NOS (methyl isobutyl ketone, ethanol) (waste stream #2)	Liquid	170 Gallons	009801138 FLE		
Non-hazardous, non-RCRA, non-DOT regulated material (waste stream #3)	Liquid	425 Gallons	009801138 FLE		
Non-hazardous, non-RCRA, non-DOT regulated material (waste stream #4)	Liquid	85 Gallons	009801138 FLE		
D001, D018, D039, UN1993, waste flammable liquids, NOS (tetrachloroethane, benzene) (waste stream #5)	Liquid	170 Gallons	009801138 FLE		
Non-hazardous, non-RCRA, non-DOT regulated material (waste stream #6)	Liquid	1100 Gallons	009801137 FLE		
Non-hazardous, non-RCRA, non-DOT regulated material (waste stream #6A)	Solid	1200 Pounds	009801137 FLE		
Non-hazardous, non-RCRA, non-DOT regulated material (waste stream #6A)	Solid	1200 Pounds	009801137 FLE		
D002, UN3264, waste corrosive liquids, acidic, inorganic, NOS (hydrochloric acid) (waste stream #7)	Liquid	315 Gallons	009801138 FLE		
D002, UN3260, waste corrosive solids, acidic, inorganic, NOS (hydrochloric acid) (waste stream #7A)	Solid	400 Pounds	009801138 FLE		
D002, UN3266, waste corrosive liquids, basic, inorganic, NOS (sodium hydroxide) (waste stream #8)	Liquid	285 Gallons	009801138 FLE		
D001, UN3139, waste oxidizing liquid, NOS (cyanide, sulfide) (waste stream #9)	Liquid	55 Gallons	009801138 FLE		
Non-hazardous, non-RCRA, non-DOT regulated material (waste stream #10)	Solid	400 Pounds	009801138 FLE		
Non-hazardous, non-RCRA, non-DOT	Liquid	2310 Gallons	009801137 FLE		

regulated material (waste stream #11)					
Non-hazardous, non-RCRA, non-DOT regulated material (waste stream #11)	Liquid	760 Gallons	009801138 FLE		
Non-hazardous, non-RCRA, non-DOT regulated material (waste stream #11A)	Solid	1200 Pounds	009801137 FLE		
Non-hazardous, non-RCRA, non-DOT regulated material (waste stream #12)	Liquid	285 Gallons	009801138 FLE		
UN2924, waste flammable liquids, corrosive, NOS (2-propanone, cyclohexamine) (waste stream #13)	Liquid	380 Gallons	009801138 FLE		
Non-hazardous, non-RCRA, non-DOT regulated material (waste stream #14)	Liquid	170 Gallons	009801138 FLE		
Non-hazardous, non-RCRA, non-DOT regulated material (waste stream #14)	Liquid	165 Gallons	009801138 FLE		
Non-hazardous, non-RCRA, non-DOT regulated material (waste stream #14A)	Solid	400 Pounds	009801138 FLE		
Non-hazardous, non-RCRA, non-DOT regulated material (waste stream #14A)	Solid	800 Pounds	009801138 FLE		
Non-hazardous, non-RCRA, non-DOT regulated material (waste stream #15)	Liquid	110 Gallons	009801138 FLE		
Non-hazardous, non-RCRA, non-DOT regulated material (waste stream #16)	Liquid	110 Gallons	009801138 FLE		
UN3266, waste corrosive liquids, basic, inorganic, NOS (sodium hydroxide) (waste stream #17)	Liquid	1600 Pounds	009801137 FLE		
UN1823, waste corrosive solids, basic, inorganic, NOS (sodium hydroxide) (waste stream #17A)	Solid	825 Gallons	009801137 FLE		
UN3260, waste corrosive solids, acidic, inorganic, NOS (sulfuric acid) (waste stream #18A)	Solid	400 Pounds	009801138 FLE		
UN1263, waste paint related material (waste stream #19)	Liquid/Solid	400 Pounds	009801138 FLE		
UN1760, waste corrosive liquids, NOS (potassium hydroxide) (waste stream #20)	Liquid	800 Pounds	009801138 FLE		
Non-hazardous, non-RCRA, non-DOT regulated material (waste stream #21)	Liquid/Solid	1600 Pounds	009801138 FLE		
Non-hazardous, non-RCRA, non-DOT regulated material (waste stream #22)	Liquid/Solid	400 Pounds	009801138 FLE		
Non-hazardous debris and PPE	Solid	15 Tons	NA		

Steel	Solid	1800 Pounds	NA	Recycling	Recycling
-------	-------	-------------	----	-----------	-----------



2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

No further actions anticipated at this time.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

The response has been completed as of November 16, 2017.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

Site work for RV2 has been completed. Upon receipt of Certificate of Destruction (CODs) from the disposal facility, the waste table will be updated. A final Community Bulletin will be distributed. A Removal Action Report will be generated.

2.2.2 Issues

None at this time.

2.3 Logistics Section

All logistics will be handled and monitored by the appropriate contractor or agency.

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

On July 11, 2017, the ERRD Acting Director approved a verbal authorization for the amount of \$282,000, of which \$200,000 is for the mitigation contractor. The Action Memorandum was approved on August 2, 2017, as a ceiling increase. The total project ceiling authorized for the RV1 action was 150,000, all of which was for mitigation contracting. A project ceiling increase of \$282,000, of which \$200,000 was for mitigation contracting was authorized for the RV2 action. The total project ceiling authorized for the Site is now \$432,000, of which \$350,000 is for mitigation contracting.

On September 25, 2017, a request was submitted for an additional \$47,000 to be added to the mitigation ceiling to be taken from the contingency costs bringing the total mitigation ceiling to \$247,000.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

The EPA OSC is in charge of overall safety at the Site. The ERS RM has been designated as the Site safety officer. A Health and Safety Plan was generated by ERS.

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

The EPA OSC is performing the activities of a Liaison Officer. The OSC is coordinating operations between the ERS contractor(s) and the local officials. Meetings with Village Officials and the public will be coordinated with the OSC.

2.5.3 Information Officer

Michael Basile is the designated Community Involvement Coordinator for the Site and can be reached at 716-551-4410.

EPA prepared a fact sheet and disseminated it to local officials and Deferiet Village residents.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

Unified Command has not been set up for this site.

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

NYSDEC, Jefferson County, and Deferiet Village

4. Personnel On Site

EPA: 1
1 OSC

ERRS: 7
1 Response Manager
1 T&D Coordinator
1 Equipment Operator
4 Field Technicians

5. Definition of Terms

Definition of Terms

ACM - Asbestos-containing Materials

Assisting and Cooperating Agencies - Agencies who are assisting the EPA response, but are not a part of Unified Command.

CERCLA - Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

ERRD - Emergency and Remedial Response Division

ERRS - Emergency and Rapid Response Services

Monitoring - Using equipment which will give limited real-time information about constituents in environmental media. This method is used most often for air and water testing.

NPL - National Priorities List

NYSDEC - New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

OSC - On-Scene Coordinator

RCRA - Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

RFP - Request for Proposal

RM - Response Manager

RST - Removal Support Team

RV1 - Removal Action 1

RV 2 - Removal Action 2

Sampling -The process of taking environmental media for analysis at a laboratory of its constituents. These tests may require multiple days to complete, but test for a wider array of constituents than monitors.

T&D - Transportation and Disposal

Unified Command - A structure based on the Incident Command System (ICS) that brings together the Incident Commanders of all major organizations involved in the incident in order to coordinate an effective response, while at the same time allowing each to carry out their own jurisdictional, legal, and functional responsibilities.

6. Additional sources of information

Site website: [Deferiet Paper Mill Site](#)

7. Situational Reference Materials

No situational reference materials at this time.